REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5-8, and 10-14 remain pending in this application, with claims 1 and 8being amended by this response. Claims 15 and 16 are new.

Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to clarify that a group having a plurality of devices is assigned to the data network to be notified in response to an event by using the topology editor. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the specification and more specifically on page 8, line 33 to page 9, line 17; Fig. 6; Fig. 7; and Fig. 8. Claim 8 has also been amended to correct for informalities.

In addition, Claims 1 and 8 are amended to eliminate the "or" language of the claim as to represent the referenced devices as being "at least one of the data network and a device of said data network". This means that the network itself a device of the data network is operated on in the claims.

Claim 15 is added to claim an embodiment of the invention which represents a method for using a user interface for assigning an event to different devices. Such assignments are defined in the specification on page 7, line 34 to page 8, line 22, Figs. 6-8, and in other places.

Claim 16 is added to claim a specific embodiment of the use of the claimed user interface. Support for this embodiment is found in the specification on page 12, lines 24-27, and in other places.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

Rejection of Claims 8 and 10-14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 8 and 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 8 has been amended in accordance with the comments in the Office Action to provide antecedent basis for all terms. Thus, in view of the amendments to claim 8, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1, 5-8 and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1, 5-8, and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Angal (U.S. Patent No. 6,298,378) in view of Goodrich (U.S. Patent No. 6,516,326).

The present claimed invention provides a method for using a topology editor to prescribe a device notified in response to an event related to the operation of a data network and the event. The event pertaining to operation of a data network is defined. The operation concerns the status of the data network or a device of the data network. A group consisting of a plurality of devices of the data network to be notified in response to the event is assigned by the topology editor. A rule is assigned to the event, the rule defining at least one condition for triggering a notification of the event to the assigned device. The condition is to be activated when matched to a notification of the operation of the data network. Independent claims 1 and 8 each contain features similar to those discussed above, and thus all remarks presented herein apply to each of these claims.

Angal and Goodrich, alone or in combination, neither disclose nor suggest "assigning a group consisting of a plurality of devices of said data network to be notified in response to said event by use of said topology editor" as claimed in claim 1 of the present invention.

Angal describes an event distribution system for computer network management architecture. A technique is used for reporting events raised by entities running on computer networks. When an event is generated from an event source and received by a event distribution system, the event distribution system processes and forwards the event, or notification of the event, to an appropriate listener. (Abstract).

The Office Action correctly asserts on page 4 that "Angal does not explicitly teach the use of a topology editor". Angal is silent regarding the use of a topology editor to assign a group of devices to be notified in response to an event. Therefore, Angal (with Goodrich) cannot disclose or suggest "assigning a group consisting of a plurality of

devices of said data network to be notified in response to said event by use of said topology editor" as claimed in claim 1 of the present invention.

Goodrich describes a system and method for automating the integration of automating the integration of different Energy Management Systems (EMS) electrical power grid databases into a single power grid database. (Abstract). The system includes a topology interface in which a "user is guided to each disconnect device...and uses a simple drag and drop to include the devices and terminals" (Col. 16, lines 35-37).

Goodrich (with Angal) neither discloses nor suggests "assigning a group consisting of a plurality of devices of said data network to be notified in response to said event by use of said topology editor" as claimed in claim 1 of the present invention. Goodrich merely uses a topology editor to add or delete specific equipment after it has been discovered that equipment has been disconnected. After the disconnect event occurs, the topology editor is used to guide the user to each disconnected device. The topology editor is then used to add or remove specific equipment to resolve the disconnected devices from the power grid (col. 16, lines 30-45). In contrast, the present claimed invention uses a topology editor to associate a group of devices to an event, where the group of devices will be notified in response to the event. Thus, when an event occurs in the present invention, the group of devices will be notified based upon a set of rules defined in the topology editor (page 8, lines 6-17). The present claimed invention assigns devices for notification purposes while Goodrich adds or removes a device from a power grid after a disconnect event. Therefore, Goodrich (with Angal) neither discloses nor suggests "assigning a group consisting of a plurality of devices of said data network to be notified in response to said event by use of said topology editor" as claimed in claim 1 of the present invention.

The Office Action asserts further that it would have been obvious to combine the systems of Angal and Goodrich. Angal describes a system for forwarding events or a notification of an event to an appropriate listener. Goodrich describes a system for automating the integration of different Energy Management Systems (EMS) electrical power gird databases into a single power grid database. While Angal is concerned with

providing an event handling system for a computer network management architecture to process large numbers of events, Goodrich is concerned with inputting raw data from any EMS data format and automatically converting it into Common Information Model format. Additionally, the Applicant respectfully submits that the approaches of Angal and Goodrich are incompatible. Angal directs and transmits messages to devices based upon filters and its assigned listeners. Goodrich merely adds or deletes devices from the network when there is a disconnected device. Therefore, Angal and Goodrich are concerned with completely different objectives and thus, there is no reason or motivation to combine Angal with Goodrich.

However, even if the systems of Angal and Goodrich were combined, the combination would neither disclose nor suggest "assigning a group consisting of a plurality of devices of said data network to be notified in response to said event by use of said topology editor" as claimed in claim 1 of the present invention. The combined system would consist of an event distribution system for computer network management architecture which forwards an event or notification of the event to an appropriate listener. If a device is disconnected from the network, a topological editor is used to guide the user to add or remove the disconnected device from the network. In contrast, the present claimed invention utilizes a topology editor to "establish functional relationships between devices on a data network" (page 4, lines 6-16). Rules are set up in the topology editor to determine how a device is to be notified when an event occurs. Devices are dragged and dropped into different folders which represent different rules and events. (page 7, line 34 to page 8, line5). Therefore, the combination of Angal and Goodrich, similar to the individual systems, neither discloses nor suggests "assigning a group consisting of a plurality of devices of said data network to be notified in response to said event by use of said topology editor" as claimed in claim 1 of the present invention.

In view of the above remarks and amendments of the claims, it is respectfully submitted that Angal and Goodrich, when taken alone or in combination, provide no 35 USC 112 compliant enabling disclosure that makes the present invention as claimed in claim 1. As independent claim 8 contains features similar to independent claim 1

unpatentable, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 8 is also allowable for the same reasons as discussed above in regards to independent claim 1. In addition, as claims 5-7 and 11-13 are dependent on independent claims 1 and 8 respectively, it is respectfully submitted that claims 5-7 and 11-13 are patentable by Angal and Goodrich, when taken alone or in combination. Therefore, Applicant further respectfully submits that this rejection has been satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 3, 10 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 3, 10, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Angal in view of Goodrich and in further view of Vining (U.S. Patent # 7,152,075).

Angal, Goodrich, and Vining, alone or in combination, neither disclose nor suggests "assigning a group consisting of a plurality of devices of said data network to be notified in response to said event by use of said topology editor" as claimed in claim 1 of the present invention.

Vining describes a system and method for removing rules form a data administration system. When a new rule is entered into the system with an already existing rule, parameters of existing rules and new rules are compared to determine if any parameters of new rules encompass parameters of existing rules. If so, the existing rule is removed. (Abstract)

Dependent claims 3, 10 and 14 are considered patentable for the same reasons presented above with respect to independent claims 1 and 8. Specifically, Vining (with Angal and Goodrich) neither discloses nor suggests "assigning a group consisting of a plurality of devices of said data network to be notified in response to said event by use of said topology editor" as claimed in claim 1 of the present invention. Vining is silent regarding assigning a topology editor. Therefore, Vining (with Angal and Goodrich) cannot disclose or suggest "assigning a group consisting of a plurality of devices of said data network to be notified in response to said event by use of said topology editor" as claimed in claim 1 of the present invention.

The Office Action asserts further that it would have been obvious to combine the systems of Angal, Goodrich, and Vining. Applicant respectfully disagree Angal describes a system for forwarding events or a notification of an event to an appropriate listener. Goodrich describes a system for automating the integration of different Energy Management Systems (EMS) electrical power gird databases into a single power grid database. Vining describes a system for removing existing rules in a data administration system when new rules are entered into the system. Angal is concerned with providing an event handling system for a computer network management architecture to process large numbers of events. However Goodrich is concerned with inputting raw data from any EMS data format and automatically converting it into Common Information Model format and Vining is concerned with removing redundant rules from a database or database in a data administration system to optimize system performance characteristics and to decrease system storage requirements. Therefore, Angal, Goodrich, and Vining are each concerned with completely different objectives and thus, there is no reason or motivation to combine Angal, Goodrich and Vining.

However, even if the systems of Angal, Goodrich, and Vining were combined, the combination would neither disclose nor suggest "assigning a group consisting of a plurality of devices of said data network to be notified in response to said event by use of said topology editor" as claimed in claim 1 of the present invention. The combined system would consist of an event distribution system for computer network management architecture which forwards an event or notification of the event to an appropriate listener. Simple Network Management Protocol traps are sent to a SNMP manager transmits a SNMP trap through SNMP manager in response to an event. If a device is disconnected from the network, a topological editor is used to guide the user to add or remove the disconnected device from the network. In contrast, the present claimed invention utilizes a topology editor to "establish functional relationships between devices on a data network" (page 4, lines 6-16). Rules are set up in the topology editor to determine how a device is to be notified when an event occurs. Devices are dragged and dropped into different folders which represent different rules and events. (page 7, line 34 to page 8, line5). Therefore, the

combination of Angal, Goodrich, and Vining, similar to the individual systems, neither discloses nor suggests "assigning a group consisting of a plurality of devices of said data network to be notified in response to said event by use of said topology editor" as claimed in claim 1 of the present invention.

In view of the above remarks it is respectfully submitted that Angal, Goodrich, and Vining, when taken alone or in combination, provide no 35 USC 112 compliant enabling disclosure that would make the present invention as claimed in claim 1 unpatentable. As claims 3, 10, and 14 are also dependent on claims 1 and 8, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3, 10, and 14 are similarly patentable over Angal, Goodrich, and Vining, when taken alone or in any combination. Therefore, Applicant further respectfully submits that this rejection has been satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections, it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at the phone number below, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

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Respectfully submitted,
Northon Rodrigues

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